(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what measures Government would take to protect the interest of farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUM DEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Under the present Agricultural Price Policy, the Government announces each season the Minimum Support Prices for twenty-five major agricultural commodities on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and concerned Central Ministries as well as such other relevant factors, which in the opinion of the Government are important for fixation of MSP. While formulating its recommendations on price policy, the CACP takes into account several important factors which include trend in market prices, international market price situation, cost of production, terms of trade etc. There is, at present, no proposal to change the existing system.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government is already taking several steps to protect the interests of farmers and these include fixation of Minimum Support Prices of major agricultural commodities and undertaking procurement operations thereof; implementation of Market Intervention Scheme; and using instruments of trade etc.

Earthquake Relief and Rehabilitation Programmes in Gujarat

2071. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any appraisal of various programmes taken up for rehabilitation of the victims of Gujarat earthquake, has been made by Government;

(b) if so, what are the areas where progress in the above work has been found wanting;

(c) what are the reasons identified for slow progress in relief and rehabilitation work; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to accelerate the progress in implementation of the programmes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) While there is always room for improvements, it appears that the reconstruction/rehabilitation operations

are in full swing. The Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA) is now the nodal agency to monitor progress in the matter. In addition to a relief expenditure of Rs. 684.10 crore, a sum of Rs. 985.70 crore has so far been incurred on reconstruction activities as per details given in the enclosed statement.

Statement

Gujarat Earthquake-Expenditure on Reconstruction Activities

(Rs. in Crores)

Sl.No.	Sector	Expenditure incurred
1.	Housing	803.75
2.	Health	0.42
	Education	
3.	Primary Education (DPEP)	58.00
	Primary Education (AMC)	7.00
4.	Dam Safety & Irrigation	14.14
	Ruberremoval (irrigation)	3.00
5.	Public Buildings	28.24
6.	State Roads & Bridges	21.77
7.	Urban Infrastructure (GUDCO)	4.18
8.	Rural Infrastructure (GWSSB)	5.00
9.	Community Participation	0.10
	Director of Information	
10.	Social Justice	0.55
11.	Legal Services	0.05
12.	Disaster Management Capacity (HO)	3.54
13.	Commissioner Cottage & Rural	2.00
14.	Sports & Youth Dept.	0.66
15.	National Council for Cement & Building Material	2.25
16.	Urban Dev. & Urban Housing Dept.	1.00
17.	Gujarat Ecology Commission	0.05
18.	Agriculture Dept.	30.00
	GRAND TOTAL	985.70